

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OBSERVING THE BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 16, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Today we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to remember a great American and civil rights leader, a man committed to uniting people and healing the wounds inflicted by injustice and segregation.

Dr. King embodied the spirit of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 60s. As a teacher, a preacher, and a leader, he tuned his membership of the board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and his role with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to help shape the nonviolent philosophy of the movement.

The 1956 Supreme Court decision declaring Alabama's segregation laws unconstitutional was one early victory in his fight for equality and justice. This victory had a tremendous personal cost for Dr. King, as he was arrested, threatened, and his house was bombed. Throughout these arduous times, Dr. King remained strong.

In 1957, Dr. King helped found and became the leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. This organization was formed to provide new leadership to the growing civil rights movement. Like Dr. King, the SCLC was committed to achieving its goals through nonviolent means.

He further refined his philosophy of non-violence during a journey to India in 1959. He saw nonviolent protest as the key to achieving his goals of racial equality and social justice in the face of a sometimes violent opposition.

Despite the obstacles, Dr. King continued his struggle and spoke at the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. It was during this event that he delivered his famous "I Have A Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, proclaiming: "I have a dream, that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'"

The following year, Dr. King saw his hard work come to fruition with passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. That same year, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, becoming the youngest person awarded the Peace Prize at that time. He chose to donate the prize money he received to further the cause of the civil rights movement.

Tragically, Dr. King's life was cut short on April 4, 1968 by a sniper's bullet. His stirring words from his speech at the Lincoln Memorial still echo today and provide us with a goal we

all share, that our "children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Madam Speaker, I urge everyone to remember and reflect on his words as we commemorate Dr. King's birthday and honor his tireless work in making America a country where the rights of all people are respected and protected.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD GOTTSCHLING

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to honor one of northwest Indiana's most dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizens. I have known Edward Gottschling for many years, and he is one of the most active and involved citizens I have ever known, especially when it comes to his service to the community. For many years, Ed has been a constant fixture in the Portage, Indiana Democratic Party and in northwest Indiana. Today, Ed is celebrating a milestone, his 80th birthday. In his honor, a celebration will be taking place on Saturday, January 20, 2007, at the Portage Yacht Club in Portage, Indiana.

Edward Gottschling was born on January 18, 1927, at his home in Gary, Indiana. As a young boy, Ed attended grammar school at Saint John's Lutheran School in the Tolleston neighborhood of Gary. Following his graduation from Tolleston High School in 1944, where he had been a standout pitcher and 4-year letter winner on the school's baseball team, Ed decided to pursue a career with the railroad. Ed began his career as a machinist helper at Elgin, Joliet, and Eastern (EJ&E) Railroad. However, in 1945, on his 18th birthday, Ed felt the need to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Coast Guard. Undoubtedly, this life-changing decision to serve became the first step in a lifetime of dedicated service to his community. Following training in New York and Miami, Ed was stationed in the San Francisco area, where he served as a seaman aboard the Grand Fork and the Key West. Ed's service ended in May 1946 when the Navy decided to make a reduction in the number of servicemen in the Coast Guard.

Upon his discharge from the service, Ed returned to work at EJ&E as an electrical apprentice. In 1954, having decided to further his education, Ed completed his courses and received his degree in electrical technology from Purdue University-Calumet in Hammond, Indiana. Prior to doing so, Ed made a decision to leave EJ&E for a new position with Illinois Bell Telephone, the company for which he would work for the next 32 years. For several years,

Ed held various positions, both indoor and outdoor, with Illinois Bell. Then, in 1959, Ed was transferred to their office in downtown Chicago, where he took on supervisory responsibilities for the company. Though Ed has many fond memories from his years at Illinois Bell, he is particularly fond of being called on to assist with the communication needs for three presidential visits to Chicago, which included visits from former Presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and Lyndon Johnson. As if his career were not already impressive enough, Ed was eventually promoted to several other positions, including the Great Lakes Regional Communication Coordinator for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Though Ed retired from Illinois Bell in 1985, it is his lifetime of service to his community that is so astonishing. Since moving his family from Gary to Portage in 1967, Ed has always been an integral part of the Portage community. Ed has served as Portage Police Commissioner and a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, and he has also served as the Portage area campaign coordinator for a United States Congressional race. Ed's interest in politics and government did not end there, as he has served as a precinct committeeman for the past 14 years and city councilman for the past 12 years, the last 8 of which he has served as council president.

In addition to city government, Ed has also been a very active member of many service clubs and organizations, as well as an active member of his church. He is an active member and past president of the Portage AARP chapter and a member and past commander of the Tolleston VFW post. A member of the VFW for many years, Ed has even held the distinguished post of district commander. Ed is also a lifetime member of the Portage American Legion and Gary Sportsmen's Club and an active member of the Portage Democratic Club. Since the age of 16, Ed has also been a member of the Saxon Lodge, where he has held numerous posts, including club president. As if his commitment to these organizations were not enough, Ed has always dedicated himself to fighting for the needs of the elderly and disabled, as evidenced by his membership with the Porter County Aging and Community Service Corporation and his service on the State Legislative Committee for the AARP and the Governor's Commission on Aging.

Though Ed has a special place in his heart for his community, his greatest love has always been his family. Ed and his wife, Nina, who passed away in 1994 after nearly 43 years of marriage, were the truest example of a loving and committed marriage. The couple raised two very successful children. Dan resides in Seattle, Washington with his wife, Barb, and Laura resides in Crystal Lake, Illinois with her husband, Robert, and children, Mitchell and Stuart. Though he has committed himself to serving his community, Ed's devotion to his family is equally impressive.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Madam Speaker, Edward Gottschling has given his time and efforts selflessly to the people of Portage, Indiana throughout his many years of service. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending him for his lifetime of service and dedication to his community. Also, I ask that you join me in wishing him a very happy 80th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL"
FERGUSON

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise in sadness over the passing of William "Bill" Ferguson, who suffered a fatal car accident in Miami-Dade County last week. He was a wonderful person, highly educated, and highly motivated and his passing is a great loss for our community.

His family and friends will memorialize him at a "going home" celebration to be held this Friday, January 19, 2007 at the historic Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Overtown. Mr. Ferguson was a brilliant attorney and counselor, and he was a consummate community activist.

Bill Ferguson's work with Ms. Georgia Ayers's Alternative Program has helped hundreds of men and women become responsible citizens of our community. His work gave hope and courage to countless folks who had been marginalized by their experiences with crime and prison. Some may have given up on them, but Mr. Ferguson's knowledge of the law and his commitment to working with all individuals irrespective of past transgressions made all the difference in countless lives. At work, he was a real marvel to witness.

He was born in November 6, 1946, to James Ferguson and Pauline Holland Ferguson. Having served his country with integrity in the U.S. Navy, he obtained his bachelor's degree in political science at Indiana State University in 1978. He went on to get his law degree from Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 1982 in Houston, TX. Not satisfied with his master's degree in law, he pursued another master's degree in counseling from Indiana State University, his alma mater.

He moved to Miami in 1985 where he met Ms. Georgia Ayers, who introduced him to her innovative and award-winning Alternative Program. In his role as "house attorney" and psychologist-counselor, he went above and beyond the call of duty to reach out to needy clients. The collective testimony of praise and gratitude from people in our community is testimony to the utmost respect that people had for Bill Ferguson.

His character and his dedication to helping the less fortunate members of our community defined his leadership. His word was his bond to those who dealt with him—not only in moments of triumphal exuberance in helping many a wayward youth, but also in his quest to transform their lives by the simple rules of good conduct and responsible citizenship.

As we honor William "Bill" Ferguson, I will fondly remember this good man. Our pride in sharing his friendship is only exceeded by our

deep gratitude for all that he has given to our community.

STEM CELL RESEARCH
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2007

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act.

Through the election, the American people have shown their overwhelming support for the expansion of stem cell research. This legislation will expand lifesaving research and ensures that the Federal Government can implement ethical guidelines. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 3, and I applaud Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, and Congresswoman DEGETTE for bringing forward this legislation which reflects the priorities and the needs of the American people.

This bill will provide hope and opportunity for millions of Americans suffering from chronic and life threatening health conditions. This legislation will also ensure that the Federal Government can implement ethical guidelines over federally funded research, which will help to set high standards for all research. To be clear, H.R. 3 only allows Federal funding for embryonic stem cell research in cases where the cells were created for fertility treatment and will otherwise be discarded.

The expansion of funding to stem cell research has the power to make a real difference in the lives of Americans. Stem cells offer remarkable potential contributions to medical science and improve the lives of millions of people who suffer from incurable diseases such as juvenile diabetes, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, AIDS, and spinal cord injuries. It may also help us to understand abnormal cell growth that occurs in cancer, as well as change the way we develop drugs and test them for safety and potential efficacy.

Recent research at Wake Forest University has shown that stem cells obtained from amniotic fluid have been able to differentiate into several cell types. This is an exciting development, but we cannot stop there. According to the study's director, Dr. Anthony Atala, it is essential to expand embryonic stem cell research, which is why he supports H.R. 3. Attached is Dr. Atala's letter in support of this important bill. In addition, I also submit an edited version of patient advocate, Peter Morton's valuable and powerful testimony to the need for this critical research.

It is imperative that we move our health care policy in a new direction and support efforts to improve the quality of life. This research is supported by 72 percent of Americans and the majority of the Congress. H.R. 3 is supported by over 200 patient groups, universities, and scientific societies, and has been endorsed by more than 75 national and local newspapers and eighty Nobel Laureates.

It is time to stop making policies based on ideology. The American people have spoken, and we can no longer delay the implementation of this vital legislation. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3.

WAKE FOREST INSTITUTE FOR
REGENERATIVE MEDICINE,
Winston-Salem, NC, January 8, 2007.

Hon. DIANA DEGETTE,
Hon. MICHAEL CASTLE,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES DEGETTE AND CASTLE: I am writing in regard to my research that was published in Nature Biotechnology that found that stem cells obtained from amniotic fluid have been able to differentiate into several cell types. This research has the potential to open up an important field of inquiry that could be critically important to the development of treatments within the field of regenerative medicine.

I understand that some may be interpreting my research as a substitute for the need to pursue other forms of regenerative medicine therapies, such as those involving embryonic stem cells. I disagree with that assertion. It is very possible that research involving embryonic stem cells will have critical implications for advancing research into amniotic fluid stem cells. It is essential that National Institute of Health-funded researchers are able to fully pursue embryonic stem cell research as a complement to research into other forms of stem cells.

Your legislation, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007, H.R. 3, would update the current federal embryonic stem cell policy and allow federally funded researchers to conduct research on an expanded set of embryonic stem cells within an ethical framework. I believe this legislation would speed science in the regenerative medicine field, and I support its passage.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY ATALA,
Director.

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH
TESTIMONIAL

Like more than 250,000 Americans, I am paralyzed from a spinal cord injury.

I've been paralyzed from neck down and ventilator dependent since a bike riding accident in 1995. I wasn't going fast and the trail wasn't difficult. Likely due to some mud on the trail, my front tire slipped, and in an instant I was on the ground with a broken neck, paralyzed and unable to breathe. If not for quick action by my brother, I would not have survived. That day, I lost the lottery. Tomorrow, it could just as easily be you.

When I awoke the next day in the hospital, I couldn't move, I couldn't feel, my head was in traction, and I had tubes in my nose and mouth. All I could do was blink. In an instant I had lost all my cherished independence, having to rely on others for everything from simply a drink of water to all the indignities of one's morning routine.

Most people understand that paralysis means you can't move. What they don't realize is that it also means you can't feel. Further, all the body's systems are affected, causing temperature and blood pressure instability as well as sexual, bowel, and bladder dysfunction. In spite of all this, do you know what the toughest part for me is now? . . . not being able to touch my kids.

Now, more than any other time in history, there is hope. Embryonic stem cells hold the possibility of replacing the cells killed by the injury. Very promising studies are being performed around the world that demonstrate the potential of embryonic stem cells to solve paralysis and many other devastating illnesses. For humanitarian reasons, we simply must pursue this potential.

There is one other point that must be made. I cut my teeth in the business world. When I was injured, I was the CFO of a major